

Remarks

Claim 1 has been amended, with the details set forth in Attachment I (Version with Markings to Show Changes Made).

Prior Rejections on Art

On page 4 of the Final Rejection, the Examiner states that "All of the rejections under 35 USC 102(e) and 35 USC 103(a) are maintained", and a new rejection which includes Claims 29-34 is set forth.

New Rejection

Claims 1-5, 9-15, 18, 19, and 29-34 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as clearly anticipated by Simpson et al. The prior rejections and the new rejection are each based on Simpson et al, and the Examiner contends that Figure 2 of this reference teaches the basic features of this claimed invention. In Figure 2 of the reference, there are two(2) four-way channel intersections, each connected by a channel 207 to waste reservoir D(208), these intersections being located above and below the reservoir 208. While each of the two four-way intersections are connected to a waste well D(208) via channel 207, an anode via channels 212, 216, a cathode via channel 210, 214, and to a pair of sample wells or reservoirs 200, 204 and 220, 224.

Claim 1, as now amended sets forth that the "injection point" (intersection) is "connected directly to only one well of said array of sample wells" (under lining added). Simpson et al fails to teach this feature because either "intersection" is connected to two sample wells 200 & 204 or 220 and 224. Thus, Simpson et al fails to teach each feature set for applicant's Claim 1, as now amended, and thus fails to

support the rejection thereof under 35 USC 102. Thus, this new rejection, along with the maintained prior rejections, should be withdrawn.

Drawing Changes

While the Office Action indicates that the drawings as filed on March 29, 2000 are accepted, the drawing do not accurately reflect the description as set forth in the specification. Thus, proposed drawing changes are submitted for approval of Figures 2A, 2B, 2C and Figure 3, with the proposed changes shown in red ink on the enclosed photocopies. Upon approval, the drawing changes will be incorporated into formal drawings to be submitted upon allowance of the claims.

Conclusion

In view of the amendments to Claim 1, the foregoing comments, and the proposed drawing change, it is submitted that the rejections have been overcome, and that the applicant is in condition for allowance based on Claims 1-34.

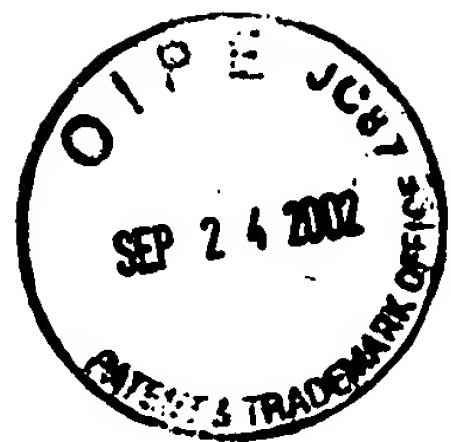
Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 9-24-02



L.E. Carnahan
Agent for Applicants
Registration No. 20,555
Tel. No. (925) 422-5024

Enclosure:
Attachment I
Photocopies of Figures 2A-2C and
Figure 3



Attachment I
S.N. 09/538,354
Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

In The Claims:

Claim 1 has been amended to read as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A microchannel Cross load array, comprising:
a cathode,
an array of sample wells [well],
an array of waste wells, said sample wells comprising twice the number of
waste wells,
an anode, and
an array of functionally identical channels, each channel having an injection
point connected directly to only [with] one well of said array of sample wells, connected
[with] directly to only one well of said array of waste wells, connected directly to [with]
said cathode and connected directly to [with] said anode.

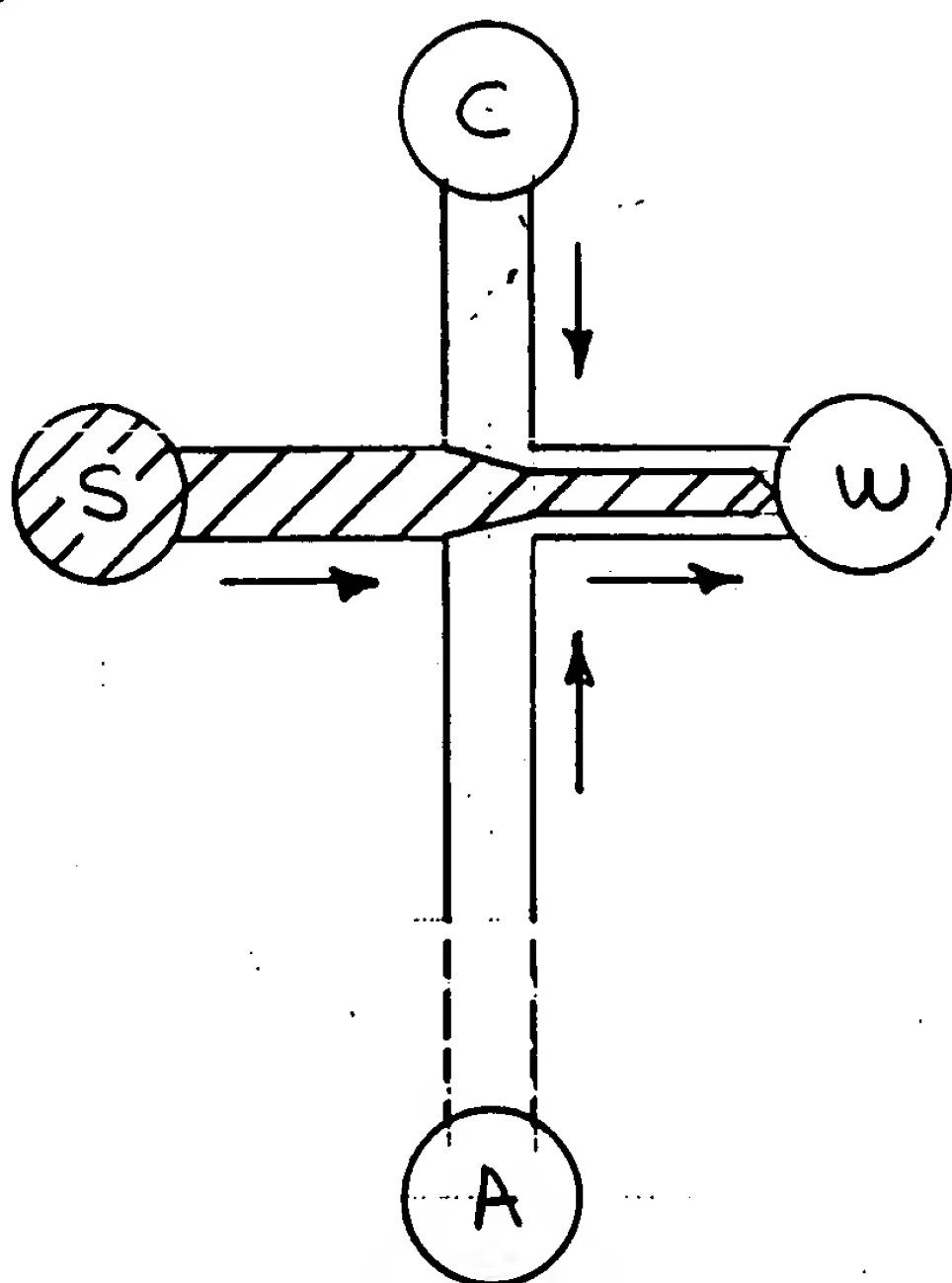


FIG. 1

(PRIOR ART)

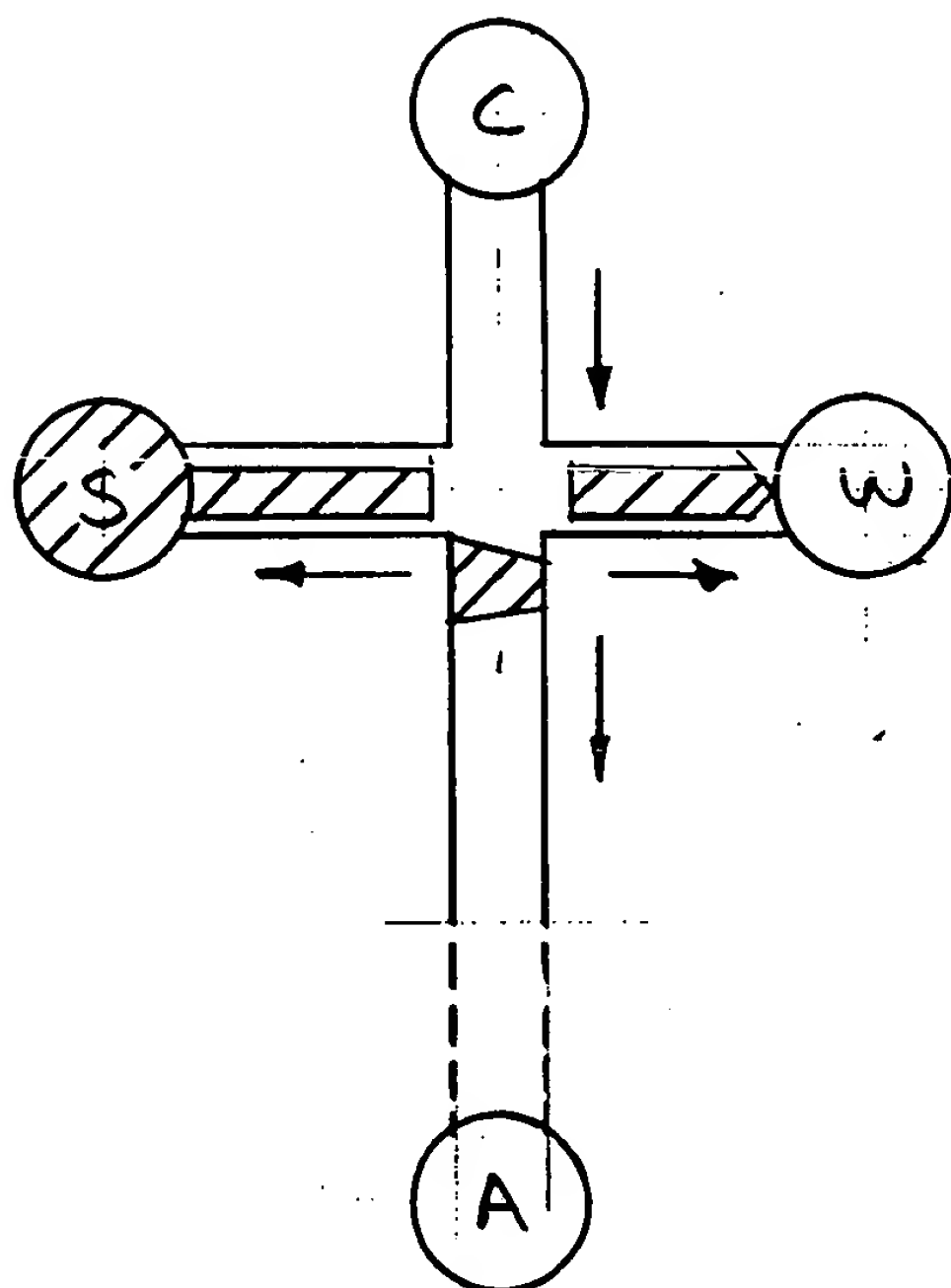


FIG. 1

(PRIOR ART)

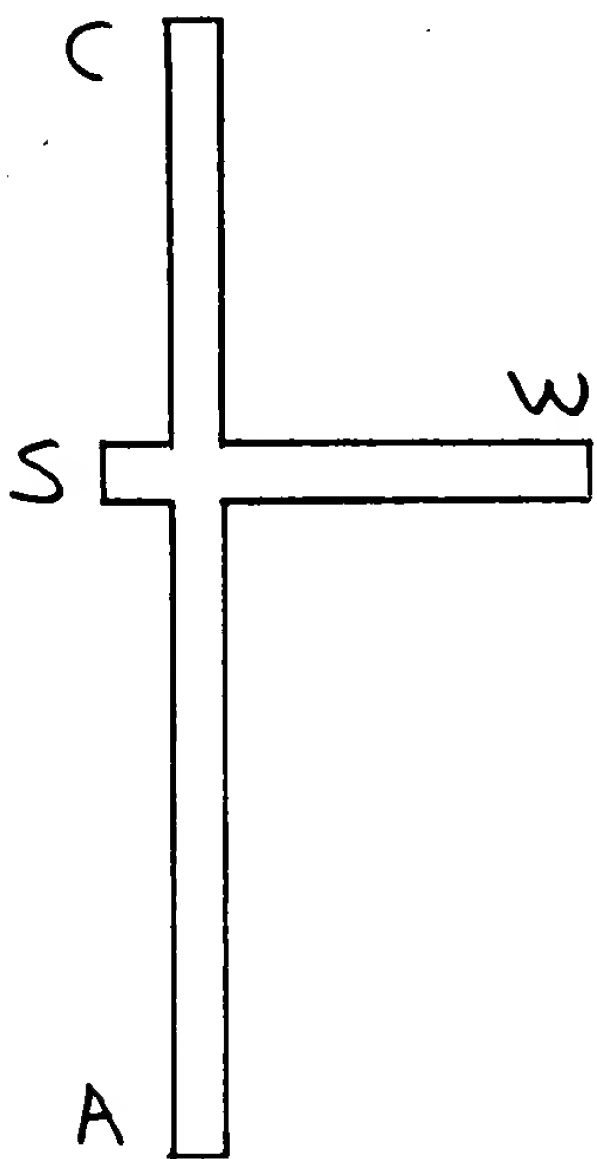


FIG. 2A

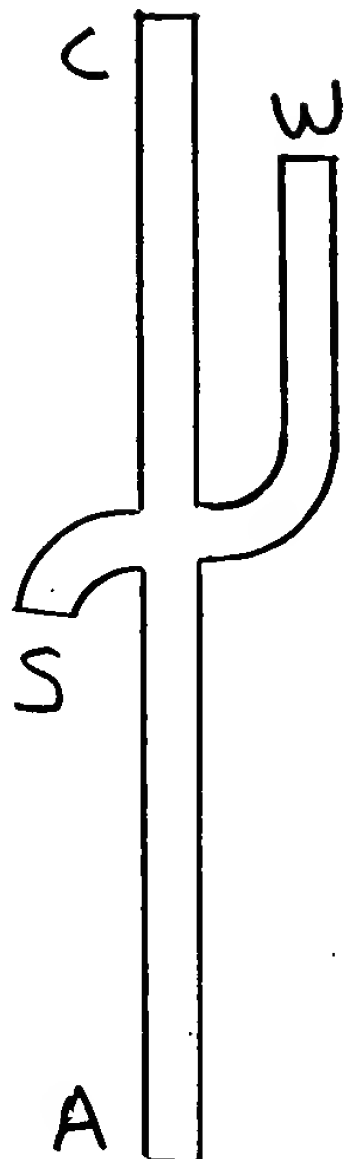


FIG. 2B

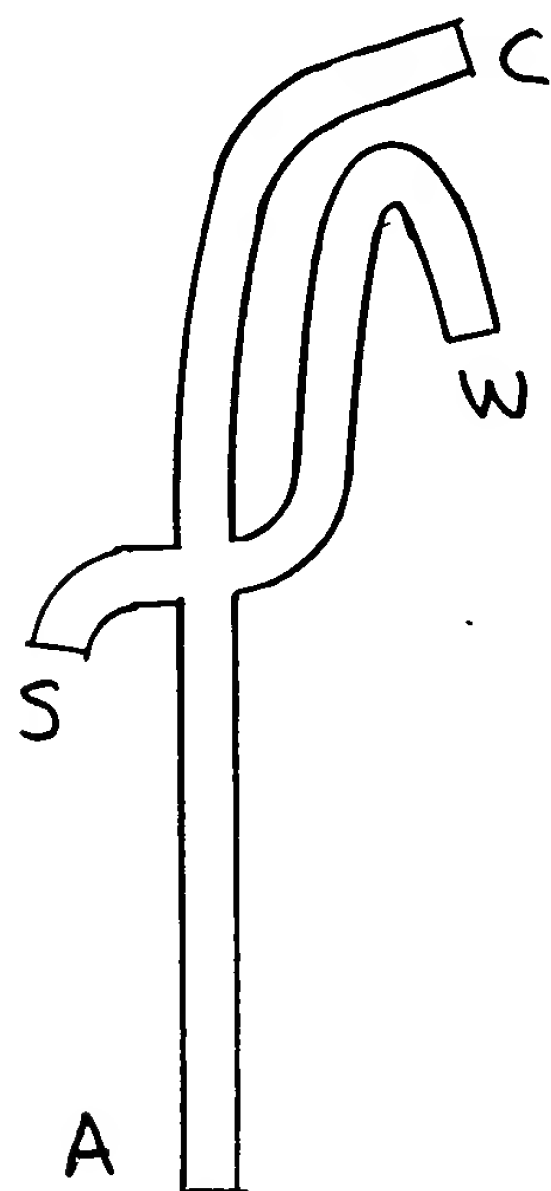


FIG. 2C

